## STATE SENATOR - MICHAEL PRUSI - 38TH DISTRICT Prusi Press Release

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## PRUSI CONVINCES DNR TO EXPAND ACCESS TO HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

Military personnel will be able to purchase hunting and fishing licenses at all vendor locations effective October 1<sup>st</sup>

LANSING – State Senator Mike Prusi (D-Ishpeming) today expressed his appreciation to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for their efforts to make hunting and fishing licenses more accessible to military personnel on leave. Earlier this year, Prusi introduced legislation to require that military hunting and fishing licenses be made available through all license vendors at no cost, making that license valid throughout the established season.

"The men and women who serve our country deserve a great deal of gratitude from our state," Prusi said. "This new DNR license policy will allow them to enjoy Michigan's beautiful natural resources without the headache of trying to find a local vendor location as in past years."

Effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, for \$1 military personnel will be able to purchase two-week hunting and fishing licenses from any local licensing agent. Currently, active military personnel home on-leave must travel to one of 9 statewide MDNR Operations Service Centers to purchase a license—taking valuable time away from family and friends at home. Although the DNR policy change does not make the licenses available at no cost, it goes a long way in allowing our servicemen and women to enjoy Michigan's natural resources.

"I am pleased that the DNR considered my common-sense legislation to make these licenses more accessible to those who have chosen to serve our country in the Armed Forces," Sen. Prusi said. "I look forward to continuing work with the Department to ensure all Michigan residents can enjoy the numerous recreational opportunities our great outdoors provide."

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Mike Prusi serves as Democratic Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He represents the 38<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes all Upper Peninsula counties west of Luce County.